CHEILANTHES MICROPHYLLA, A GENUS AND SPECIES NEW TO THE BAHAMA ARCHIPELAGO.—The finding of *C. microphylla* (Swartz) Swartz on Grand (Middle) Caicos Island in the Bahama Archipelago raises to 44 the number of species of ferns and fern allies now known to occur in this region. This species also occurs in the southeastern United States, the Greater and Lesser Antilles, the Cayman Islands, and Mexico. The collection was made, in company with Ruben Sauleda and Patricia Adams, on rocks in partial shade about the mouth of caves on Village Hill, between the airstrip and Bambarra, Grand (Middle) Caicos Island, 12 Feb 1978, *D. S. Correll 49461* (F, FTG, IJ, MBG, NY, US).—*Donovan S. Correll, Fairchild Tropical Garden, Miami, FL 33156.*

THE CHROMOSOME NUMBER OF NOTHOLAENA COCHISENSIS.—Löve, Löve, and Pichi Sermolli (Cytotaxonomical Atlas of the Pteridophyta, 1977) have recorded the chromosome numbers of several species of *Notholaena.* They synonymized *N. pruinosa* and *N. integerrima* under *N. sinuata,* both of which can be separated from *N. sinuata.* These species were dealt with by Knobloch, Tai, and Ninan (Amer. J. Bot. **60:** 92-95. 1973), who stated that the chromosome number of *N. cochisensis* Goodding had not been ascertained.

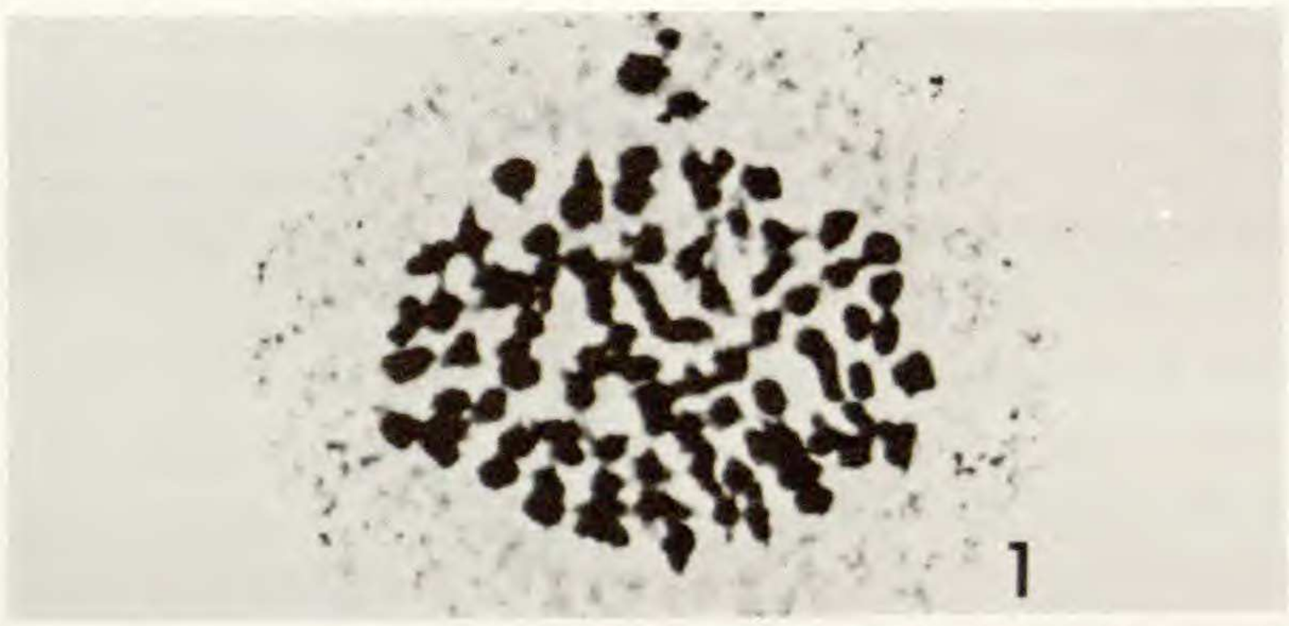

FIG. 1. Spore mother cell of *Notholaena cochisensis (Knobloch 2523,* MSC) at meiosis with about 87 bivalents, × 1666.

In 1977 we obtained a meiotic count shown in *figure 1* of about 87 bivalents in a triploid plant of *N. cochisensis* collected in 1973 from McKelligan Canyon within the city limits of El Paso, Texas *(Knobloch 2523,* MSC). This plant had no more than 32 fertile spores in each sporangium and presumably is apogamous. The sporophytic number should be the same as the gametophytic number, as is the usual case in apogamous ferns. According to Foster and Gifford (Comparative Morphology of Vascular Plants, 1974), 32-spored sporangia may arise in at least three ways (two meiotic and one mitotic), but the type involved here is not known.

Traditionally, the nearest relatives of *N. cochisensis* are *N. sinuata, N. integerrima,* and *N. pruinosa.* All of these are apogamous triploids and have $n=2n=87$ chromosomes. Whether these plants are hybrids between extant or extinct species cannot be stated with certainty until such hybrids have been synthesized. We thank Dr. Donald M. Britton for confirming our opinions.—*Irving W. Knobloch* and *William Tai, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Michigan State University, East Lansing,* MI 48823.